



Environmental NEWS RELEASE



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EPA SEEKS COMMENTS ON NL INDUSTRIES CLEANUP PLAN; PUBLIC MEETING MARCH 6

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 is seeking public comments on a proposed plan to clean up contaminated ground water, the main industrial area (Taracorp pile) on the NL Industries-Taracorp facility, and residences and alleys in Venice, Madison, and Glen Carbon, IL, that received hard rubber battery-case material as fill.

The battery-case material came from the NL Industries-Taracorp Superfund site, Granite City. Based on current information, EPA is recommending:

- o excavating a pile of battery-case material and contaminated soil and waste material from BV&G Transport property, Rich Oil property, and a former slag recycling operation now known as Trust 454 and combining it with the Taracorp pile;
- o capping the Taracorp pile;
- o excavating from residential areas fill contaminated with hard rubber battery case material, treating the hazardous portions, and restoring the excavated areas; and
- o pumping and disposing of contaminated ground water and installing monitoring wells to identify the extent of contamination.

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Written comments on this proposed plan will be accepted from February 17 to March 20, 1995. They should be sent to Susan Pastor, P-19J, U.S. EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604.

Oral and written comments may also be submitted at a public meeting at 7 p.m., March 6 at Granite City Township Hall, 2060 Delmar Ave., Granite City.

"Public comment is an important part of EPA's decision-making process," said Deputy Regional Administrator David Ullrich. "We hope to receive comments from throughout the affected communities."

Copies of the proposed plan and other site-related documents will be available for review at the Granite City Public Library, 2001 Delmar Ave., Granite City.

An administrative record containing information that EPA will base its decision on has also been placed in the library.

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